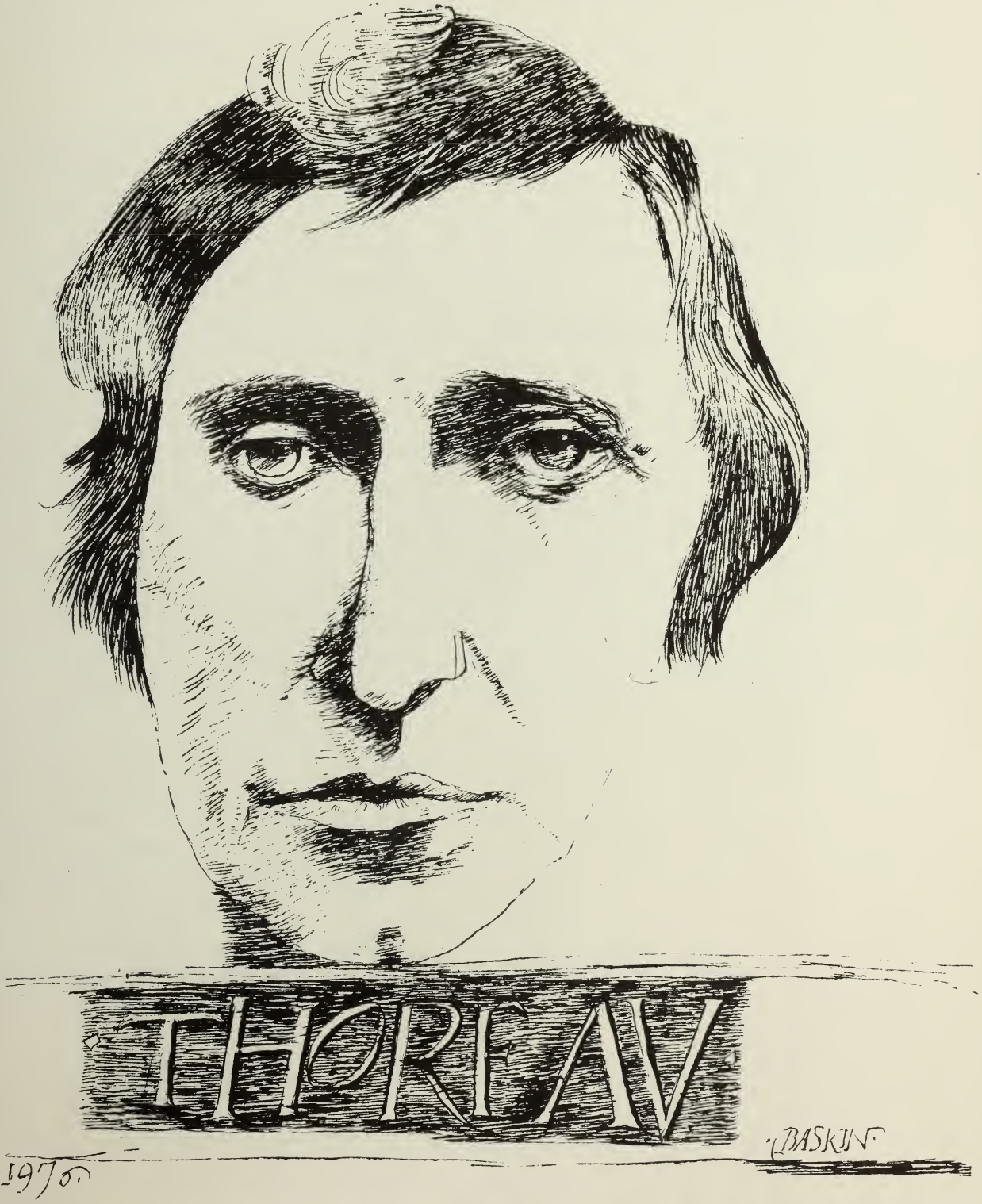
The University of Massachusetts Press Spring & Summer 1977



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YOUNG MAN THOREAU
Richard Lebeaux,
Michigan State University

Focusing primarily on the period between Thoreau's graduation from Harvard in 1837 and the beginning of the Walden experiment in 1845, Richard Lebeaux argues that Thoreau had a fatefully prolonged adolescence (or "moratorium") and a troubled young adulthood before emerging as "great man" at Walden and in *Walden*.

Making use of Eriksonian psychology and interdisciplinary approaches, the author traces the complex and painful process by which Thoreau's identity was achieved. In a society rushing toward commercialism and materialism, the quest for identity was especially difficult for young men of "genius and virtue" such as Thoreau. And his strained relationships with his family—especially with his brother John—intensified his problems. Lebeaux's analysis helps to explain the development of Thoreau's "militant" independence, his aversion to conventional success, his sense of specialness and need for purity, as well as his search in Concord for a "great man" to emulate, and for an ideology and identity to embrace.

His brother's untimely death in 1842 forced Thoreau to work out guilt and grief, and precipitated a long "winter of discontent." Finally, during the Walden experiment, Thoreau came as close as he ever would to achieving a satisfying identity. In a brilliant conclusion, Lebeaux suggests that Thoreau's Walden experience and his book provided America with the archetype, in deed and word, of a psychosocial moratorium.

"This is a stunning piece of work. . . . In the end he doesn't rely, like most psychobiographers, on an elaborate abstract scaffolding built around a few choice facts. The evidence here is overwhelmingly supportive of his thesis, so that even if a dozen of the subordinate interpretations proved to be off the mark, the over-all argument would scarcely be affected"—Leo Marx, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

256 pp., cloth, $12.50*
LC 76-45048, ISBN 231-2
May

Leaving the Hospital on a Medical Tour

RUTH V. HEMENWAY, M.D.
A Memoir of Revolutionary China, 1924-1941
Ruth V. Hemenway, M.D.
Edited by Fred W. Drake,
University of Massachusetts

"The memoir of Ruth Hemenway may well be a classic. She writes with extreme immediacy and creates a visual and personal impression in almost every paragraph. The content of her experience is both medical and Chinese and the combination is a constant excitement if not shock to the reader. . . . this particular story has more vitality, action and color than almost any I can remember"
—John Fairbank, Harvard University.

Ruth V. Hemenway (1894-1974) left her father's farm in Williamsburg, Massachusetts to study medicine in Boston. In 1924, three years after graduating from Tufts Medical School, she accepted a position from the Methodist Women's Board of Foreign Missions to direct a 100-bed hospital for women in Mintsing, Fukien, warlord-dominated China.

Based on diaries kept by Dr. Hemenway throughout two critical decades in China before the Communist Revolution, this memoir provides a poignant picture of rural China in the years preceding and during the Nationalist Revolution.

Beyond the importance of her observations on revolutionary China, the memoir is a profoundly human and personal document. It is a portrait of a dedicated, courageous doctor who believed in the strength and spirit of the agrarian Chinese. A strong-willed, iconoclastic New Englander who pragmatically chose the role of medical missionary as the only way to fulfill her dream of serving the Chinese, Dr. Hemenway's memoir does not reflect the typical views of proselytizing Western missionaries. Her understanding that China's salvation lay in the common people with whom she worked was a remarkable insight for one relatively innocent about the nature of Chinese politics. The text is illuminated by Dr. Hemenway's own water colors of scenes from the memoir.

216 pp., illus., cloth, $12.50
LC 76-45245, ISBN 230-4
April

A RAINBOW FOR THE CHRISTIAN WEST
René Depestre
Translated with an introduction by Joan Dayan

René Depestre is a black Haitian poet and a Marxist, who has lived in Cuba since 1959. This volume includes the first major translation of his most important collection of poetry with a critical introduction.

"Rise up my poems, your place is in the streets" —Depestre is a poet of *négritude*, inspired as much by the Haitian popular religious tradition as by politics and Marxism. He views the clash between the black and the white worlds as a source of a new synthesis, a truly human society.

A Rainbow for the Christian West presents this view in a sequence of poems and prose poems in which the poet, strengthened by the concept of *négritude* and drawing on the wealth of Voodoo symbolism, intrudes into the white man's world—conflict and transformation ensue.

Joan Dayan's introduction traces the evolution of Depestre's poetry, incorporating translations of pertinent poems and explaining the Voodoo background. Her commentary is based on rare documents as well as on field work in Haiti, where she was able to talk with Voodoo priests and observe their secret rites. The text includes a complete bibliography of Depestre's works, plus a selection on *négritude*, Haitian culture, Voodoo, and African philosophy.

Joan Dayan is a doctoral candidate at CUNY. Her work on Depestre received the Land Prize at Smith College.

"In my opinion this effort constitutes a remarkable analysis which places Ms. Dayan among the best critics of Caribbean literature"—René Belance, Brown University.

272 pp., cloth, $12.50* LC 76-45047, ISBN 229-0
May

From a sculpture by Georges Liataud.

THE SURREALIST VOICE
OF ROBERT DESNOS
Mary Ann Caws,
Hunter College, City University of New York

This study of Robert Desnos—French surrealist poet, "dream writer," critic—introduces to the English-reading public one of the foremost representatives of the French surrealist movement. Dr. Caws presents Desnos within the framework of his surrealist contemporaries, then examines his criticism, his theoretical work on the cinema, and the two novels and poetry he wrote before disassociating himself from surrealism in 1929.
Using historical scholarship and linguistic analysis, Dr. Caws skillfully interprets Desnos's style and surrealistic images. Particular attention is given to his poetry as it moves from verbal games and grammatical deformations toward a more complex poetry of love. An excellent series of brief textual analyses explore his experiments with language and his obsessions with silence, and reveal how the early novels and poems simultaneously create and destroy their own sublimely conceived myths. The volume contains numerous translations (including a number of previously untranslated poems), six automatic drawings, and a brief sketch of Desnos's tragic life.

208 pp., cloth, $12.50*
LC 76-25145, ISBN 223-1
May

MICHELET'S POETIC VISION
A Romantic Philosophy of
Nature, Man, and Woman
Edward K. Kaplan, Amherst College

Remembered primarily for his monumental histories of France and the French Revolution, Jules Michelet was also a luminary of French Romanticism, a philosopher, naturalist, and poet who attempted to develop a spiritual philosophy of humanity to replace Christianity and confirm the principles of the French Revolution.
The thesis of this gracefully written and accessible book is that Michelet's attempt succeeded; that the "voices of Michelet the poet, historian, and philosopher are one," and that Michelet was "a lucid thinker who elaborated a philosophical system of remarkable coherence and breadth."
This volume examines Michelet's nonhistorical works with emphasis on his natural histories, *The Bird, The Insect, The Sea,* and *The Mountain.* These in turn are related to his social inquiries, or educational books such as *The People, Woman, Love, Our Sons,* and the histories. Several critical methods—history of ideas, analysis of ideology, phenomenology of imagination, stylistic analysis, and some biographical information—are utilized to elucidate the "artist-historian's" nature mysticism and religion of humanity.
An appendix containing the first translation of Michelet's "intellectual autobiography and a last testament," the famous *Preface* of 1869 to the *History of France,* provides the reader with an opportunity to discover Michelet's system firsthand.
"A sensitive, learned and fervent study of Michelet's imagination and sensibility. . . . A valuable contribution to our knowledge of Western thought"
—Henri Peyre, CUNY.

256 pp., cloth, $12.50* LC 76-45050, ISBN 236-3
June

FROM THE GHETTO
The Fiction of Abraham Cahan
Jules Chametzky,
University of Massachusetts

The first systematic critique of Abraham Cahan's fiction (1891-1917). Founder and senior editor of the influential *Jewish Daily Forward*, essayist of considerable merit, author of *The Rise of David Levinsky* (1917) and many other novels and short stories, Cahan played a crucial role in the acculturation of millions of Jewish immigrants into American life. Mediating among various sensibilities, languages, and cultures—Jewish-Yiddish, American-English, Russian—Cahan's literary works deal largely with the trials and triumphs of a struggling immigrant people. A literary pioneer probing the duality of the Jewish-American immigrant experience, Cahan was the forerunner of every consciously Jewish writer of this century—Saul Bellow, Michael Gold, Henry Roth, Alfred Kazin, Philip Roth, and others.

Professor Chametzky's study acknowledges Cahan as a major cultural figure who articulated the immigrant experience in a nation of immigrants. Among other topics, Chametzky discusses the nonliterary aspects of Cahan's career, his development as a Realist, his relationship with William Dean Howells, his attempts to reconcile Jewish consciousness with revolutionary ideology, and his literary use of Yiddish and English.

"Chametzky is the first scholar to systematically study all of Cahan's fiction. . . . his study genuinely illuminates the relationship between this literary pioneer and his gifted and resourceful successors on the contemporary American literary scene"
—Moses Rischin, San Francisco State University.

176 pp., cloth, $10.00*
LC 76-25047, ISBN 225-8
March

NEW ENGLAND'S PROSPECT William Wood
Edited with an introduction by
Alden T. Vaughan, Columbia University
The Commonwealth Series,
Winfred E.A. Bernhard, general editor

Originally published in London in 1634 and reissued in 1635 and 1639, *New England's Prospect* was the first book to provide reliable first-hand information about the New World. It remains a classic in its field as a contribution to natural history, ethnology, and as an example of early American descriptive and promotional literature. The subtitle accurately reflects its contents and purpose: "A true, lively, and experimental description of that part of America, commonly called New England: discovering the state of that country, both as it stands to our new-come English planters; and to the old native inhabitants, laying down that which may both enrich the knowledge of the mind-travelling reader or benefit the future voyager." Unlike most of his contemporaries, Wood focused directly on the natural environment and its inhabitants. With equal care he described the major Indian tribes of the area. His observations of Indian life went beyond the usual concentration on government, religion, and war to describe such features of daily life as diet, dress, recreation, the role of women, and hunting and fishing techniques. Written in an era of ponderous prose, *New England's Prospect* is remarkably succinct and direct. Wood's intent was to ensure that his readers "reap delight, if they can get no profit."
Long out of print, this first modern edition is based on the 1635 edition as corrected by the author. Professor Vaughan has expertly modernized and annotated the text for contemporary readers.

160 pp., cloth, $12.50*
LC 76-45051, ISBN 226-6
July

WORLDS, TIMES AND SELVES
A. N. Prior and Kit Fine

During the last years of his life A.N. Prior was working on a book to be entitled "Worlds, Times and Selves," a volume concerned with the interplay between modal or tense logic and quantification theory. Prior wanted to demonstrate that modal and tense logics could stand on their own, and that talk of possible worlds or instants could be analyzed within them rather than the other way around. Only the first chapter was completed; for other chapters, incomplete notes were left. Kit Fine has integrated these unpublished drafts with some of Prior's published papers to produce a coherent statement. Fine concludes with a lengthy postscript in which he details the proposal for explaining instants and possible worlds within tense or modal logic.
A.N. Prior (1914-1969), the founder of tense logic, was a Fellow and Tutor at Balliol College, Oxford University. Kit Fine is Assistant Professor of Philosophy, University of California.

170 pp., cloth, $10.00*
LC 76-45042, ISBN 227-4
OBE
April

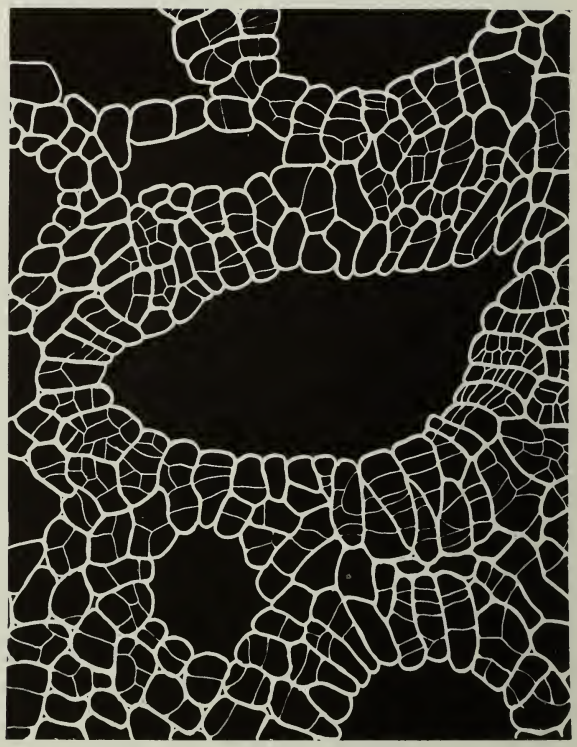
HORMONE ACTION IN THE
WHOLE LIFE OF PLANTS
Kenneth V. Thimann,
Professor of Biology Emeritus,
University of California, Santa Cruz

"Professor Thimann has been actively engaged in plant hormone research since the 1930s, without significant interruption; and he has been recognized as a leader—some would say *the* leader—in the field for all these years"—W.K. Purves, University of Connecticut.

This study of the role of hormones in the whole life of the flowering plant is the first synthesis of the vast amount of information which has accumulated through years of isolated, worldwide research. With an encyclopedic command of this literature, Dr. Thimann views the life of the plant from seed to seed, covering all the stages or phases sequentially, and describing at each stage the controlling processes of hormones. Beginning with seed germination, he follows the enlargement and orientation (tropisms) of the seedling, the formation and growth of leaves and roots, the onset of flowering, the development of the fruit, and finally the aging and falling of leaves and fruits. In addition, Dr. Thimann discusses the chemical structure of known hormones and inhibiting substances, and reviews the present body of knowledge about their action mechanism at the cellular level.

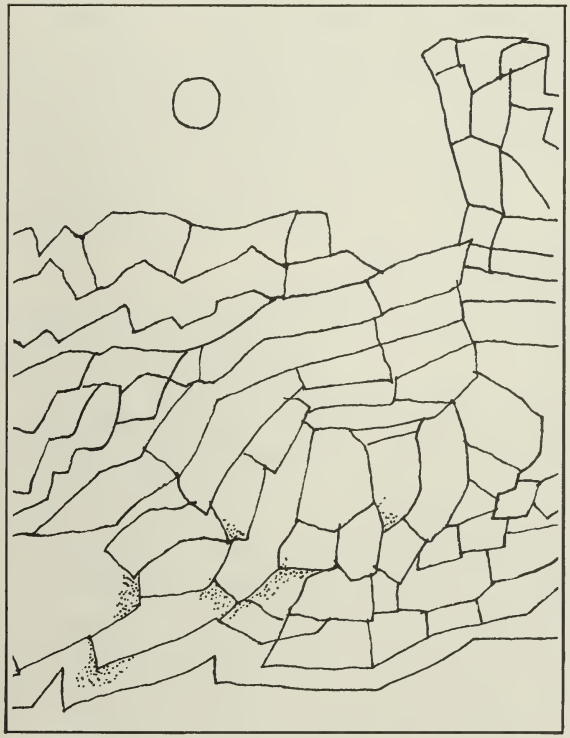
Included are chapters on such topics as the history of plant hormone research, geotropism, phototropism, chemical aspects of the auxins, differentiation and plant tissue cultures, and cell enlargement and growth. Two hundred and seventy-five figures complete the volume.

"No one could be expected to write such a book better than Professor Thimann, bringing to the task his love of the subject, his intimate knowledge of it, and his unusual facility at writing with clarity and authority"—John G. Torrey, Harvard University.



390 pp., cloth, $35.00* LC 76-26641, ISBN 224-X
August

CHANGING RURAL LANDSCAPES
Edited by Ervin H. Zube and Margaret J. Zube,
Institute for Man and Environment,
University of Massachusetts



Fifteen essays from J.B. Jackson's highly acclaimed *Landscape* magazine explore the interaction between American values and rural landscapes. Placed within the context of current issues—the population shift to rural areas, the loss of agricultural lands, the impact of development on wildlands—these essays focus on change as it occurs in rural America, and show how social, economic, cultural, and technological processes affect the ways in which the landscape is organized and used.
The volume is divided into four sections: *Processes and Values* is an exploration of dominant cultural and technological forces in landscape changes, offering analyses of the landscape through attention to human values and historical perspectives; *Boundaries and Territories* presents discussions of spatial organizations and relationships—front yards, walls, fences—and observes the ways in which these elements combine to create the rural community; *Communities* considers alternative communities, the role and future of rural towns and cities, and the quality of rural community life; *Perception and Experience* offers provocative insights into perception and experience as ways of understanding landscape values. The essays in this section reflect Jackson's concern with a person-based approach to analyzing changing landscapes.

160 pp., cloth, $10.00*; paper, $4.95
LC 76-45043, ISBN (cloth) 228-2; ISBN (paper) 235-5
April

RECENT TITLES

LEGION OF NIGHT:
The Underwing Moths
Theodore D. Sargent

A comprehensive study of the splendid moths of the genus *Catocala* in eastern North America.
" . . . an extremely valuable piece of scientific work. Professor Sargent has demonstrated his scientific knowledge of this group of moths many times and a compilation of these data by him will be a most valuable addition to the entomological literature"—Dr. Lee D. Miller, Curator, Allyn Museum of Entomology, Sarasota, Florida.

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Robert Francis

Gathered here in their entirety are the seven previous volumes of Francis poetry together with a group of recent poems, many not previously published but "saved" to end this volume on a note of newness.
Because the original seven volumes are kept in chronological order, the reader can follow the author's journey from his quiet early work to poetry of greater color, warmth, vitality, vivacity, and sportiveness; and can note just when and where Francis's style becomes more and more diversified, with word-count, fragmented surface, and the celebration of words themselves.
The book is graced with eight wood engravings by Wang Hui-Ming.
"If the finest poets may aspire to the status of prophets, then Robert Francis's best poetry as prophecy is a rock we can all depend on, I believe" —Andrew Salkey, British Broadcasting Company.

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Nuclear Engineering, Ohio State University

"Dr. Webb raises questions that I believe have not been responsibly answered by the nuclear industry . . . grave enough so that they should be set out in public as a prelude to their consideration, and hopefully, prompt resolution by the nuclear industry"—Henry Kendall, Union of Concerned Scientists.
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GODS AND HEROES OF THE GREEKS
The *Library* of Apollodorus
Translated with introduction and notes
by Michael Simpson
Drawings by Leonard Baskin

A new translation of the only Greek handbook of mythology to survive antiquity. Beginning with the birth of the gods and ending with the death of Odysseus, the *Library* traces the destinies of such great figures as Prometheus, Oedipus, and the heroes of the Trojan War. The introduction and notes survey modern approaches to mythology and ancient literature. Leonard Baskin's drawings provide a unique contemporary vision of the ancient Greek world.
"Simpson's version could be used as a text for a myth course. The translation is clear . . . and the notes will help students by locating variant versions, literary treatments, and modern interpretations of the myths"—*Library Journal*.

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"For the general public as well as for scholars, it will probably be the principal reference work on modern Portugal for some time to come"
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In Search of American Culture
James Hoopes,
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"Mr. Hoopes puts Brooks in a new and fresh perspective. His book should interest the general reader as well as students and scholars. It is a substantial and valuable contribution"—Daniel Aaron, Harvard University.

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